FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 5, 2002 CONTACT: Martha Deacon

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UNITED STATES BRONZE POWDERS, INC. RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM

MARYVILLE – Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development Deputy Commissioner Mark Reineke, on behalf of Gov. Don Sundquist, today awarded United States Bronze Powders, Inc., the **SHARP** Award. The **Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP)** Award is one of the state's highest honors for workplace safety and health.

Reineke congratulated K.C. Ramsey, president, Shirley Davis, vice president and plant manager, and the United States Bronze Powders, Inc., Safety Committee during the ceremony held at the Maryville facility. "Programs like the SHARP Award are crucial to protecting Tennessee's 2.8 million workers. Employer participation reiterates our commitment to making Tennessee a safer place to work and a more desirable place to live."

Designed for the smaller employers (employing less than 250) in high-hazard industrial classifications, the program provides incentives and support for companies that are approved for participation. The main objective of SHARP is to recognize those employers who work with their employees to produce, execute, and enhance a safety and health program, resulting in a better workplace for all.

The main incentive for participation in the SHARP program is the desire by employers to promote a safe and healthy workplace. The program also allows employers to be removed from programmed compliance inspection lists for a period of twelve months. TOSHA consultants work with companies to develop, implement, and continually improve workplace safety and health programs.

For more information on the SHARP Award program, contact TOSHA's Consultative Services office at 1-800-325-9901.

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The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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